



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

ISSUE 8:
8 November 2019

OUR WORLD FAMOUS
FIREWORKS GALA IS
BACK! A FABULOUS
NIGHT FOR ALL
THE FAMILY

TAYLOR
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St Mary's FIREWORKS GALA

Message from the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Ni Hao, Anyoung haseyo, Magandang umaga, Konnichi wa, Guten tag, Bonjour, Ola, hello and welcome back to Term 4.

It is lovely to get back to school again after eight months of study leave. I am enjoying the company of students, teachers, parents and whanau and being involved in the exciting learning that is happening throughout the school.

Farewell to Ben Fuller

We look forward to celebrating the leadership, dedication and commitment that Ben Fuller has made to our school at a special farewell liturgy in Week 5. You are all invited to this liturgy on Thursday November 14th at 1:30pm.

Principal for the day

Last Friday Maddi Mear and Leo Kirk had the opportunity to be Principal and Deputy Principal for the day. They both were amazing helpers and had some great ideas. Maddi took on the challenge with gusto and a beaming smile although we were a little perturbed when she decided that some of the teachers needed firing! Leo rolled up his sleeves and got right to work, although he was a bit conflicted when choosing between the office and the playground. Thank you Maddi and Leo we loved your enthusiasm and we know that you loved the McDonalds lunch!

Student Conferences

Last week was the first of the student, parent, conferences this term and you will have two more opportunities to meet before the end of the year, if you haven't already done so since June.

Learning

We are lucky to have such exciting and diverse learning programmes in place at St Mary's. Over the last two weeks I have seen science in the estuary and in the gardens, art in the form of Kapa Haka, music and the Pasifika Festival and play throughout the school. I have had numerous children coming to me with their amazing maths, writing and reading and I look forward to spending more time in classrooms to support the learning that is happening.

Catholic Character

I have many opportunities to visit other schools and coming back after a period of time has given me fresh eyes. When I walk into St Mary's I realise how special our school is and how our Catholic Character really shines throughout. It is seen in the way people treat each other, the atmosphere in the staff room, the welcoming of office staff, the behaviour of the children and especially in the way that our values are embraced and shared. We truly do show **faith** (whakaponono), **mercy** (aroha), **wisdom** (maramatanga) and **truth** (tika).

A warm welcome to our new students

Maxi Brazendale, Mason Gesalta, Ethan Hunter, Jehyun Jeong, Gyulyn Kim, Gyuwon Kim, Thomas Knowles, Bodhi Lawrence, Alexander Maisey, Lily McCarthy, Mathieson McKinnon, Carys Parry, Samuel Reid, Patrick Siron, Annabelle Sowerby, Emily Sowerby, Thinh Vo, Thu Vo and Bowen Xue.

We were able to welcome all new students at our New Families Liturgy this week and we also had the pleasure of officially welcoming Father Philip Billing. You may have also spotted Fr Phillip standing at our school gate welcoming our students and parents at the start of the day. We think that is very special!

2019 Term Dates

Saturday 9 November

Jump Jam North Island Championships

Sunday 10 November

**Parish School Mass 10.30am St Mary
Immaculate**

Monday 11 November

- Sibling photos
- Whanau Robbie Estuary Day

Tuesday 12 November

- Speech & Drama Christmas Concert
9.15am - 10.30am & 11.10am - 12.30pm
- PTA Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 13 November

South Cluster Athletics - Aroha Team qualifiers

Thursday 14 November

- Class Mass Whanau Cochrane 9am
- Farewell Liturgy Ben Fuller followed by light refreshments 1.30pm

Friday 15 November

Whakapono Kayaking 9am - 12.30pm

Wednesday 20 November

New Entrant Meeting 3.15pm

Thursday 21 November

Class Mass Whanau Yorke 9am

Tuesday 26 November

He Paku Whakangahau - all day

Wednesday 27 November

**WBoP Athletics Championships - Aroha
qualifiers - all day**

Thursday 28 November

- Class Mass Senior Catholic Character
Leaders
- Whakapono Marae visit - all day
- Board of Trustee meeting 6pm

Friday 29 November

- Whakapono kayaking 9am - 12.30pm
- Out of hours music concert 12.30pm -
1.30pm

Thursday 5 December

End of year Mass Year 0 - 4

Friday 6 December

Year 6 Retreat - all day

**Parish School Mass this
Sunday 10 November at
10.30am. We hope to see
you all there!**



Safety

The safety of our students is of utmost importance and there are several things that we can all do to ensure this:

- Please ensure that your child is not dropped off to school before 8:15am as there is no supervision before this time. Classrooms are opened and active supervision starts from 8:30am
- Children left at school to wait for parents are a concern. A duty teacher will roam the school at 3:10pm and collect all students who are not being supervised by an adult. They will be sent to the office to wait for their ride home, so please pick them up from there. If your child is still here by 3.30pm you will need to consider enrolling them in the After School Care service held at school.
- Parking in the bus bay, the grass verge of neighbours and within the school grounds poses huge safety problems for our children and our community. This term there will be parking wardens visiting our school. We have asked that they don't issue tickets on their first visit, but subsequent visits will incur fines for those that are parking in these areas.
- As summer draws near please consider parking two or three blocks away and enjoying the walk to school with your child.

2020

The end of the term is fast approaching and we are busy with the organisation for 2020. You can be assured that there is careful consideration given to placing your child in their whānau class. There are numerous factors that contribute to this decision - academic, social, emotional and learning strengths and needs. Teachers and Team Leaders know your child well and have significant input into placements.

We have made a decision to move Aroha Team into the buildings adjacent to the field (Whakapono Team this year) for 2020. This also means that Whakapono Team will then occupy the buildings at the top of the school (Aroha Team this year). The teams are looking forward to this move and the exciting learning that will take place in these teams.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Annette Laban and Angela Cochrane who have been appointed as permanent, full time teachers at St Mary's. I would also like to congratulate Abbey Graham who has been appointed as a one year fixed term, full time teacher at St Mary's whilst Amber Armstrong is on maternity leave.

We look forward to a successful term ahead, with lots of learning across the curriculum. Thank you for your continued support.

Ngā mihi nui

Anna MacKinnon
Acting Principal

**Good luck to our Jump
Jammers competing at
the North Island Champs
this weekend.**



be.
the difference

**ONLY 1
WEEK TO
GO**

TAYLOR
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Sat 16 Nov 2019
Gates open at 5.00pm

We URGENTLY need PEOPLE, PEOPLE, PEOPLE...

Please consider offering your help and add your name to the list of helpers by using this link;

<https://forms.gle/kjFly8TRQKhxWNjv8>

Donations

Thank you to those who have already donated prizes for the winning wheel, jar-a-rama, balloon pop and hampers.

Here are a few examples if you need ideas.

Winning Wheel

Items for hampers e.g. food, toys, sports equipment, vouchers (movies, restaurants, beauty) etc. Please ask family, friends, neighbours who may be able to help with donations.

Year 3 to 6

If you can supply the following please drop them in to the school office.

Jar-a-rama, and a small prize for the balloon pop e.g. colouring books, reading books, small toys, stickers, balloons, pens, crayons, chalk etc.

Year 0 to 3

If you can supply the following please drop them in to the school office.

Baking for the cake stall - please ensure this is dropped to the school office on Friday 15 November in an airtight container.

No postponement date
RAIN, HAIL or SHINE!

Only 1 week to go!

Buy your tickets here <http://bit.ly/2qSGv3D> or go to the Eventbrite website and search for St Mary's Fireworks.

Online ticket price - buy online & save

Family Pass = \$30 (2 Adults and up to 3 children)

Adult = \$15

Child = \$5 (aged 5-15, under 5's free)

Limited gate sales

There are a very limited number of gate sales this year.

Family = \$35, Adult = \$20, Child = \$10

We encourage you to buy your tickets online early.

The Taylor Bros Transport Fireworks & Gala is one of the highlight of the school's calendar and our biggest fundraising event, which attracts up to 5,000 people of all ages.

This gala has proven, over the years, to be one of the most popular fireworks displays in Tauranga City.

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